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HAMILTON, WALTON H. *Readings in Current Economic Problems*. Pp. xxxix, 789. Price, \$2.75. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1915.

Associated with the teaching of economic law and economic theory is the desire for practical application of such law and theory. To meet this need the University of Chicago Press in 1913 gave a helpful volume in *Materials for the Study of Elementary Economics*. Another urgent need, however, was still felt—a need for collected material upon our vital economic and commercial problems, a desire for information on those questions of the day upon which there is live discussion, financial conflict and industrial unrest. *Current Economic Problems* attempts to fill such a need.

The volume is a collection of many viewpoints gleaned from an exceptionally large number of writers. Here and there the author picks up bits of material which he attempts to weave into a unified, organized whole, covering our principal economic problems. The reader soon realizes that in lieu of a definite formulation or outlining of the problems we have a collection of attitudes toward industrial difficulties. This constitutes the discordant note one is bound to observe, especially if there is a search being made for collateral reading on current problems.

C. E. R.

GEOGRAPHY

DE LARA, GUTIERREZ and PINCHON, EDGCUMB. *The Mexican People: Their Struggle for Freedom*. Pp. xi, 360. Price, \$1.50. New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1914.

KOEBEL, W. H. *The South Americans*. Pp. vii, 366. Price, \$3.00. New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1915.

This volume aims to give an account of the people, life, resources and industries of the South American continent. The method of treatment is by topics rather than by the more common method employed in books on South America of treating each country separately. The author gives the first two chapters to South America To-day and The South Americans at Home; the remaining chapters taking such topics as Labour, Literature and the Press, Industrial Opportunities, Minerals, Products, Ports, etc. In each chapter the treatment covers all the countries on the subject under discussion. The author recognizes and emphasizes the differences—socially, economically and politically—between the different parts of the continent, and in many instances attempts to bring out the contrasts found. Nevertheless, many general statements are made that do not apply to all the continent and which will leave the indiscriminating reader with a wrong impression. As is inevitable in a single book covering so large a field on so many different topics, the information is fragmentary and often incomplete. Much more prominence is given to the southernmost countries and the author shows a surer and more comprehensive grasp of facts when dealing with these countries. The information on the northern countries is not only limited in amount, but is in some cases unreliable as well as incomplete. For instance (p. 200), in the mineral resources of Venezuela, silver, tin, onyx—minerals that do